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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Patent Application:

Pknkham

Serial Number: 09/930,572

Filed: May 1, 2002

Title: Chromatography Valve Assembly

: Group Art Unit: 3753  
:  
: Examiner: John A. Rivell  
:  
: Attn. Docket No.: Pinkham-767RE  
:  
: Date: December 22, 2003  
:

Mail Stop NON-FEE Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
DEC 31 2003  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 30, 2003, kindly enter the following amendment and response.

As required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.178, the Applicant states that the original patent can not be located at this time. If the original patent is located, it will be duly submitted to the Patent Office.